

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1805, October 24, 1953

YOUNG EXPLORERS IN THE FAR WEST

Essex boy tells CN of expedition to British Columbia

ONE of the boys who recently returned from Canada with the party of the British Schools Exploring Society was Roy Lowe, of Hornchurch, Essex. The other evening he was busy at his home with his studies for a university scholarship in zoology when our correspondent, Edward Lanchbery, called to hear his own account of the expedition to the wilds of British Columbia—already briefly described in the CN.

It was last November that Roy and three other boys from his school, whose names had been put forward by the headmaster, were called for interviews in London. More than 500 applications had been received for the 69 places in the party.

"From the start it was made clear that the expedition would be no picnic," Roy told our correspondent. "I was asked how much camping I had done, and what weight of pack I was used to carrying. When I told them 40 lbs. they said I would have to carry 70-lb. packs out there!"

FIVE DAYS IN A TRAIN

Undoubtedly the fact that he is a Queen's Scout helped to tip the scales in Roy's favour; and he and one other boy from his school sailed with the party at the end of July.

They docked at Montreal and boarded a train for the five-day journey across Canada—through vast wheatfields and prairies, and over the Rocky Mountains to British Columbia in the West.

Two "colonist" coaches were added to the ordinary passenger train for the schoolboy explorers. These coaches were equipped with a small kitchen in which the boys cooked their meals on charcoal stoves.

They had already gone onto

their "iron rations" of ship's biscuits, pemmican (dried meat), and dehydrated vegetables. From time to time, though, the beaming Negro porter came through the train and cried his wares of "Popcorn, peanuts, crackerjack!" to give them added variety.

At Fort St. James, on the southern tip of Lake Stuart, they embarked in launches for the base camp.

LAKESIDE CAMP

"It was called a lake," commented Roy Lowe, "but it looked to me more like a sea. You could hardly see across to the other side, and the water was very choppy."

The original intention had been to set up the base camp on the extreme northerly tip of the lake. But dense forest came right down to the water's edge, so it was decided to move back along the eastern side to the one point where there was a small beach to serve as a landing-place.

Even then trees had to be felled and a considerable area of thick bush and undergrowth cleared to make space for the camp site.

By the time he had snuggled into his sleeping-bag that first night, Roy Lowe was already asleep—and he stayed asleep! In fact, he knew nothing about the commotion caused by a bear alarm until the next morning.

Shortly after 2 a.m. one of the three boys on guard was sure that he could see a bear against the camp stores. He promptly gave the alarm by banging two biscuit tins together.

ENCOUNTER WITH BEARS

It was a pity for him that the bear vanished before anyone else saw it, because for the next day or two he had to endure much leg-pulling. As Shakespeare wrote, "in the dark how easy doth a bush appear a bear."

He considered himself vindicated, however, a few days later on the dumping march. This was a preparatory eight-day trek in which supplies of food were buried at intervals in readiness for the main 14-day march of 116 miles through forest and underground, up mountains, and across rivers on log rafts.

Along this route they came upon

distinct tracks of bears. And then as they climbed a mountainside one boy, who was apart from the rest, caught sight of a small bear in a tree.

He took out his camera and was about to photograph it when a shower of stone and slate rained down on him. He looked up to see another bear, very much larger and no doubt the mother of the one in the tree, scrambling down the rockface toward him.

The boy promptly bolted back to rejoin the party, and the mother bear ambled back to her lair with the cub.

As the long march continued so Roy Lowe grew hungrier and hungrier. It was, however, not true hunger but the psychological effect of small, highly-concentrated foods instead of large, bulky meals. The diet had actually been

Continued on page 2

Schoolgirls' playtime



Girls of Bloomsbury Technical School enjoying a game of netball in the nearby Coram Fields.

Six months from Britain to Australia

Now that it is possible to fly from Britain to Australia in less than 24 hours it is strange to reflect that it is not so long since the journey took several months.

Mr. Henry Lawton, who died in Sydney recently, made such a journey, and it is vividly recorded in a diary now in the possession of his brother.

He emigrated from Yorkshire 65 years ago in the 4000-ton sailing vessel Grassingdale, and the voyage took six months. Moreover, the only fresh food was obtained by killing three sheep on board.

Towards the end of the journey the cook ran out of materials for making bread, and the diary briefly records: "We find biscuits pretty tough."

One of the favourite pastimes was the baiting of shark with a piece of pork trailed over the side of the ship.

Early in the voyage the ship was struck by a storm. The cabins were flooded and a deluge of water rushed from side to side as the vessel rolled.

An even worse storm, which occurred just before they reached Australia, carried away part of the deckhouse and the front of the forecabin.

FLAG RETURNS HOME

When the famous American explorer Rear-Admiral Robert Peary went to the North Pole in 1909 he left a United States flag in a cairn on a mountain about 450 miles from the Pole.

There the flag remained until last Spring, when some Canadians found the cairn and a small fragment of the flag.

Now the Canadian Government is to send the remains of the flag to Admiral Peary's widow. She made the flag for him in 1888.

GOOD USE FOR DEBRIS

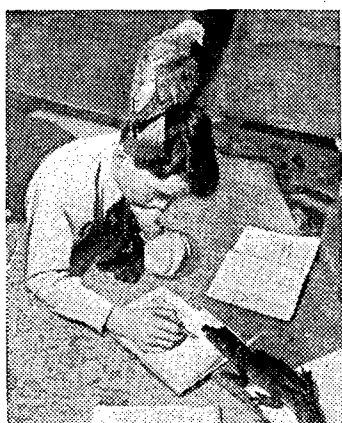
On Saturday the Duke of Edinburgh will open the Butlin Playing Fields at Whitley, Coventry.

Covering approximately 38 acres of what was once common land, the rough ground was made level by using thousands of tons of debris from the city's bombed ruins, with a top dressing of loam.

ON OTHER PAGES

BRITAIN LOOKS AFTER HER COLONIES	2
PICTURE-NEWS MAP	3
STATE BARGE BECOMES MUSEUM PIECE	7
ROB ROY AS A ROYAL FILM	7
LADY IN SILK AT THE UNITED NATIONS	8
CELESTIAL SEA MONSTER	11

Pet's corner



A young alligator and a pigeon are the pets of 13-year-old Peter Bett of Banstead in Surrey. While Algy watches his master drawing, Hank the pigeon looks on from his usual perch.

BRITAIN LOOKS AFTER HER COLONIES

C.N. Diplomatic Correspondent

BRITAIN'S Colonies are making varying degrees of progress towards self-government. But sometimes, perhaps inevitably, there are crises in their political growth and development, an example being the tense situation in British Guiana.

Non-Colonial powers have often tended to take for granted the notion that countries having colonies under their control use them chiefly as sources of raw materials; that low wages and cheap production bring wealth to the mother country.

But the idea that Britain selfishly exploits her territories for her own benefit and obstructs them in achieving independences, could scarcely be farther from the facts.

The truth is that Britain's Colonial administration is a long way ahead of many self-governing countries in the treatment and freedom accorded to peoples under their rule.

This is no empty claim. It has been proved in detail before no less an assembly than the United Nations, which created a Special Committee to look into the way Colonial Powers exercised their responsibilities for non-self-governing territories.

CRITICS ANSWERED

Critics of Colonial policies—the accusers were mainly from the Iron Curtain countries—were given complete answers to their inquiries on how Colonial peoples were being educated to their eventual task of administering their own affairs.

Unbiased countries who had known little of the work that was being done by Britain, and other Colonial powers, found that some astonishing progress had been made.

Then came inquiry into economic development, and again Britain showed how much had been accomplished. The United Nations were reminded of conditions in some parts of Africa before Britain's entry.

The most active commerce then was the slave trade. Famine and epidemics scourged the territories,

and most of them were in a state of barbarism.

Yet all this has been changed. Law and order, schools, hospitals, new industries, communications, and many other amenities have transformed the picture.

Nevertheless, some of the critics still contended that we tax our Colonies and make a good profit out of their progress.

Again the accusers were wrong. Since the War of American Independence ended in 1783, no Colonial territory has been required to pay taxes to Britain. Some of them do make contributions occasionally, but the United Kingdom has been constantly putting money into their development.

MUTUAL BENEFIT

What benefit, then, does Britain get from her Colonies? The answer is that there is great mutual benefit to Britain and the Commonwealth generally, as well as for the Colonies themselves, in the increasing Colonial trade. The whole world, in fact, shares in the advantages.

So research constantly goes on to encourage the rate of development. Irrigation of the soil and mechanisation of farming methods create more food.

The people are better fed, better clothed, and better educated. And they are urged more and more to help themselves and to assist in the progress being made.

Amid so many changes there are bound to be some difficulties. But the surprising thing is, not that friction occasionally arises in a Colonial territory, but that the process of growing up to independence is going on with so little disturbance in so many parts of the British Empire.

That fact speaks eloquently for British administration.

YOUNG EXPLORERS

Continued from page 1

medically planned to give each boy 4000 calories a day.

Breakfast at 7 a.m. was a mug of porridge. If the cooks had not been too successful, or the porridge had been burnt or smoked over the open wood fire, Roy would stir in two squares of his chocolate ration to disguise the taste.

He followed his porridge by some of his daily quarter-pound cheese ration and two of the dozen hardtack biscuits.

The routine was 50 minutes on the march with a ten-minute break each hour. During these breaks he allowed himself one square of chocolate, or one lump of sugar.

At 11 a.m. an ounce of sultanas was issued, which he could eat there and then or nibble on the march. Lunch at 1 p.m. was biscuits, cheese, and tea.

Occasionally the boys would in-

roduce variety by pounding the biscuits to a powder in a bag, and frying the powder with chopped-up cheese in margarine to make what they called cheese flans.

"It was gooey and sticky, but more filling that way," said Roy.

At 3 p.m. another ounce of sultanas or raisins was issued. At 6 p.m. the party pitched camp for the night and had the main meal of the day. The ration of pemmican and dehydrated vegetables were boiled up together to make "hoosh."

It was certainly not a picnic, as Roy Lowe had been warned at the outset. The boys were intended to live on similar rations and follow much the same routine as that of experienced explorers setting out to survey still unknown areas of the world.

"It was tough," summed up Roy Lowe, "but it was great!"

Plaques for the Royal Tour

In a small studio in Barnet, Hertfordshire, Mr. G. C. Francis is painting tiny red and gold lions on metal plaques. Soon they will be on their way to some of the most remote parts of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Francis has been commissioned to paint the coats-of-arms on the plaques which will surmount the fleet of cars to be used during the forthcoming tour by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

He has already completed the plaques for New Zealand, and these have been despatched.

Some of the plaques emblazoned with the arms of the Queen when she was Princess Elizabeth had come back to him from Australia. They had been sent there in preparation for the Royal tour which was so tragically cancelled on the death of King George.

From these plaques Mr. Francis had to remove the "label of difference"—a white bar with a red rose in the centre and the cross of St. George at each side.

Mr. Francis is carrying on a family tradition, for his father and grandfather emblazoned the arms on nearly all the carriages in the Royal mews.

ICE-BOUND GRASSHOPPERS

An American agricultural expert, who has just been to the Bear-tooth Mountains in Montana to view thousands of grasshoppers preserved in glaciers there for some 600 years, has evolved a theory on how they came to be there.

He believes that they were flying over the mountains when a sudden snowstorm or rising cold air froze them so quickly that they remained perfectly preserved.

POST OFFICE ALMOST IN THE SEA

The village post office at Walcot, Norfolk, can justly claim to be nearer the sea than any post office in Britain, for after the East Coast floods it was left only two feet from the edge of the cliffs.

Now it is to be removed bodily to a spot about 20 yards inland.

FOR A FRIEND

AN ideal Christmas present for a friend across the seas—one that lasts for a whole year—can be had for 17s. 4d. For this sum Children's Newspaper will be sent every week for a year to any address overseas.

For 19s. 6d. it will be sent every week to any address in the United Kingdom.

PLEASE send your remittance, together with full name and address (in block capitals) of the friend to whom the C.N. is to be sent, to *Subscription Department, Children's Newspaper, The Fleetway House, Faringdon Street, London, E.C.4*, and we will do the rest.

IF desired, a special greetings card bearing your own name and address will be sent with the first copy.

News from Everywhere

SAFETY PLAY

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents is offering £100 in prizes for a play with road safety as the theme. Entry forms can be obtained from Terminal House, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W. 1.

An unusual entry at an Ashford produce show was a cabbage from which the heart had been removed and replaced by an arrangement of beans, tomatoes, carrots, and other small vegetables.

RARE VISITOR

A bird rarely seen in this country, the hoopoe, was observed in Whitby harbour.

Custard powder and starch are being produced from banana stems in India. Strangely enough, the custard is not banana flavoured!

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund is to become a permanent body known as the United Nations Children's Fund. The symbol Unicef is to be retained.

SAVE THE ABBEY

A Save-the-Abbey-Week is to be held next month to raise the £600,000 still required for the fund for the restoration of Westminster Abbey. It is hoped to raise £1,000,000.

Nepal has become the 80th member of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

ISLE OF SUNSHINE

Between May and September the Isle of Wight had more sunshine than any other district in England and Wales.

When the Queen tours New Zealand she will use the special railway coach built 19 years ago for the tour by the Duke of Gloucester.

Fishing in a competition at Deal, Mrs. Lydia Schermuly landed 292 fish, weighing 145 lbs., a record catch for a coastal competition.

FREE FOR ALL

Scotland's first free passenger and vehicle ferry service has been opened between the island of Luing and the mainland.

Anglers fishing after dark at Whitby are being plagued by rats. When a fish is taken off the hook and laid aside the rats steal up and make off with it.

A bronze bowl with a hoard of 905 silver pennies of the 13th and 14th centuries has been found by a workman excavating a drain at Bootham, Yorkshire.

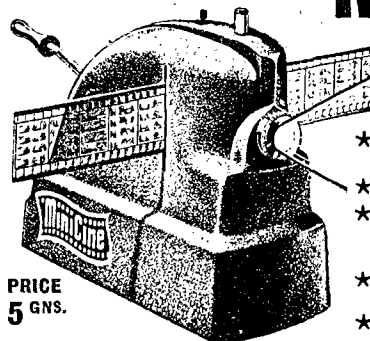
DEAR SANTA

Denmark has received its first letters of the year addressed to Santa Claus, Greenland.

A huge cross for the steeple of a new church at Straubing, Germany, was raised into position by helicopter.

Have years of fun with MiniCine!

A Super 'Xmas' Present!



PRICE 5 GNS.

- ★ Entertain your family and friends with exciting movie shows!
- ★ 200 colour films to choose from.
- ★ Enid Blyton and Walt Disney movie films, Natural History, Science, Sport, Bible Stories, etc.
- ★ Projects bright and clear pictures in colour.
- ★ Absolutely safe and easy to operate.

SEND FOR

FREE

ILLUSTRATED BROCHURE

GIVING FULL DETAILS

Write your name and address clearly (BLOCK LETTERS) in the coupon, put in unsealed envelope (flap tucked in), fix 1½d. stamp and post at once.

Please send me illustrated MiniCine brochure.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

C.N.

TO MARTIN LUCAS LTD., HOLLINWOOD, LANCASHIRE



CN Picture-News and Time Map

The clocks above show time all over the world. Sunlight moves westward round the Earth, travelling 15 degrees an hour. This means that every 15 degrees east of Greenwich the clock is one hour ahead, and every 15 degrees west it is one hour behind.

CANADA
AN AMERICAN expedition to the Bahamas has returned with a collection of 50,000 insects and 2700 reptiles, amphibians, and mammals.

EUROPE
EUROPE'S BIGGEST aerial crop-spraying operation was carried out by helicopters in a cockchafer-infested area of the Rhône valley in Switzerland.

AFRICA
LOCUST PLAGUES may spread to many parts of East Africa, for the insects are breeding rapidly in Ethiopia and south-western Arabia, despite the methods of control.

ASIA
HONG KONG'S fishing fleet—the largest in the Commonwealth, with 5000 junks and employing more than 50,000 fisherfolk—last year marketed the record catch of 26,000 tons of fish.

AUSTRALIA
HELICOPTERS are to be used over inaccessible areas in the search for more oilfields in Papua. See news columns

SOUTH AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA has 16 gold mines producing both gold and uranium, but development of the Witwatersrand and Orange Free State gold-bearing reefs may increase the number to 50.

INDIA
AN ANCIENT TEMPLE to the god Siva has been moved stone by stone to a new site nine miles away from Hirakud Island, which will be submerged by a new dam in the Orissa province of India.

SCHOOLBOYS FIND ROMAN KILN

Digging on a site overlooking the famous Roman road of Watling Street, boys of Hartshill Secondary Modern School, Nuneaton, have discovered what appears to be an old Roman pottery kiln.

Professor A. H. Oswald, of Birmingham University, has identified the pottery already discovered as belonging to about A.D. 80 to 350.

The boys are now digging trenches near the site in the hope of finding other evidence of Roman settlement.

Another interesting find is a complete "bath suite" in a large Roman villa excavated near Corby, in Northamptonshire.

The main bath chamber, supported on 30 small columns, was kept warm by hot air circulated through flues from an adjoining stokehole.

In a huge trench of kitchen refuse were found numerous shells of oyster, a favourite dish of the Romans.

HOW TO DIRECT A FILM

A new subject which 3000 London schoolchildren will learn about is the work of a film director. For this they are going in parties at different times to the National Film Theatre, on the South Bank.

Talks on the subject are illustrated with excerpts from old and recent films.

SCOTLAND OF THE SOUTH

New Caledonia, a mountainous island in the south-west Pacific, has been celebrating the 100th anniversary of the hoisting of the French flag there.

Captain Cook gave the island the name of New Caledonia when he sighted its coastline in 1774. He thought its mountains looked like the Highlands of Scotland.

It was not until 1853, however, that a French admiral hoisted the French flag on the island—which was then used as a convict settlement for many years.

TITMOUSE BECOMES TIDMARSH

During the recent celebrations of 300 years of Baptist worship in Oxford, Titmouse Lane was renamed Tidmarsh Lane, in memory of Richard Tidmarsh, in whose house the Baptists of Oxford met from 1661 to 1715.

Richard Tidmarsh, although persecuted, ministered for 30 years to the Oxford Baptists, and his house continued to be used for worship until it was despoiled by Jacobean rioters in 1715.

A plaque given by members of the New Road Baptist Church was unveiled near the site of Tidmarsh's house.

PACKET AND ALL

The ordinary 2-lb. packet of sugar—carton and all—can now be made entirely from sugar cane. The product left over after squeezing all the sugar juices from the cane is being used to make paper.

LOCUST DANGER

The Anti-Locust Research Centre at South Kensington has given a warning that the desert locust plague is now reaching "alarming proportions."

Desert locusts breed in three main areas—the Indo-Pakistan border; Northern Ethiopia; Eritrea, the Sudan, and the Somali peninsula. From these regions they swarm over an area containing 25 countries, ranging from Eastern India to West Africa and from Turkey to Tanganyika.

Dr. B. P. Uvarov, Director of the Centre, says that unless a really concerted, worthwhile international effort is made in the next year or two, the consequences may be very serious, for the plague will get out of hand.

Table mountain



The mountaineering courses now being given at some L.C.C. schools are proving very popular. Here a class is being instructed in the use of ropes, with a table to lend a little "height."

DRILLING FOR OIL IN PAPUA

The deepest trial well in the Southern Hemisphere has been sunk in Papua by an Australian oil company.

It is in the middle of a sago swamp in the delta of the Kikori River, and the prospectors had to work knee deep in slime and water to find the best site for their shaft.

They are very hopeful of finding oil here because, earlier this year, drills driven to a depth of 14,000 feet tapped a vast reservoir of gas, which was under such enormous pressure that it damaged the casing of the shaft and jammed the drill.

The search for oil in Papua has lasted more than 30 years and has cost over £12,000,000. Helicopters are to be used to help the oil-seekers in the wild regions they are exploring. See World Map

ALTERED STAMPS

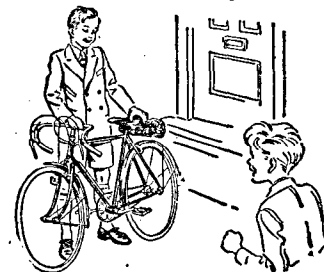
Since 1840, when Sir Rowland Hill introduced the Penny Post, stamps have been used for a variety of purposes.

At present, to avoid reprinting and as a mark of disrespect, a series of prison-like bars have been printed over Egyptian stamps which bear ex-King Farouk's head.

This idea of overprinting and altering issues was used many times in the war by the Germans as they occupied countries. Of these, the Channel Islands had the most ingenious alterations, which are quite valuable today.

The full story of the stamps is in the November issue of World Digest, now on sale at 1s. 3d.

PROUD OF YOUR BIKE ... aren't you?



see that it's fitted with ...

Fibrax BRAKE BLOCKS

No matter what make your bicycle may be, fit it with FIBRAX BRAKE BLOCKS. You can trust them—they're SURE STOPPERS at any speed. They look good, too, on a smart machine. For steel rims FIBRAX BLACK BLOCK; for alloy rims the new SOFT RED BLOCK (specially designed for alloy). Both obtainable from cycle shops everywhere.

NATIONAL
ROAD SAFETY
WEEK
OCT. 17-26

Play your Part
by taking extra
care this week—
and see that your
brakes are OK.

FIBRAX LIMITED
20 TUDOR STREET, LONDON, E.C.4
F.2530



London's giants return

These new oak figures of Gog and Magog occupy the same position in London Guildhall as the old figures of the legendary giants which were destroyed during the war.

ADVENTURE OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

In a series of illustrated free lectures at the Imperial Institute in South Kensington this autumn, adventurous travellers are relating their experiences in little-known parts of the Commonwealth.

Next Monday Mrs. Bertild Bekker will describe her journeys through the jungles of Malaya and Borneo, and on November 2 Mr. S. Gore will talk about his journey by car across Australia.

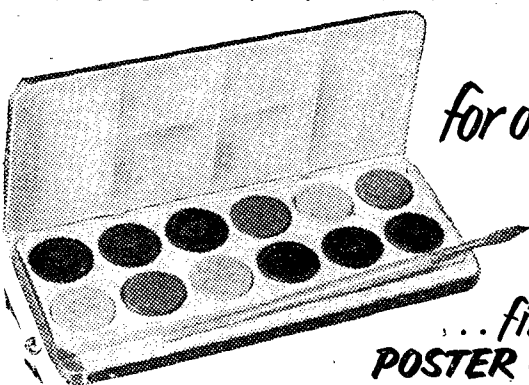
Adventure of a different kind will be described on November 9

by Mr. E. N. E. Nkune in his lecture on Community Development in West Africa, and on November 16 when Mrs. A. W. Wakefield describes the Grenfell Mission's work in Labrador.

Among the other talks will be a pictorial preview of the places to be visited during the Royal Tour of Australia and New Zealand, which is to be given by Mr. D. Schloss, B.A. on December 14.

Free film shows are also given every day at the Imperial Institute.

Here's a fine Colour Box



for only 6/-

...fitted with
POSTER COLOURS!

This attractive green and cream box contains 12 round cakes of solid poster colour as large as a penny and twice as thick! Wonderfully bright, easy to use, and ready to give many hours

of painting pleasure. Complete with a good squirrel hair brush. Ask for Winsor & Newton's S.P.12 Colour Box, price 6/-.

Winsor & Newton

Winsor & Newton Ltd.
Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex.
Also at New York & Sydney.

BRAND NEW HEAVY DUTY
CLEATED RUBBER
WELLINGTONS
19/11 Post etc. 1/6

Priced everywhere at 28/11, our first stock of 5,000 pairs we are offering at 19/11. Pure hard-wearing rubber and rubber and really waterproof, with reinforced uppers and heavy cleats. Sizes 3 to 11 only. For use with these boots, Long Warm Socks, 3/9 a pair. Post 7d.

HEADQUARTER & GENERAL SUPPLIES, LTD. (Dept. CN/37), 196-200 Gold-harbour Lane, Loughborough Junction, London, S.E.5. Open all Sat. 1 p.m. Wed.

10% INCL. POST

REAL MOVIE PROJECTOR

THE FAMOUS RAILWAY COMPLETE TIMEKEEPER

15/11 Post etc. 7d.

Robust and Shock Resisting

COLOURED FILM AND 2 OTHERS
NOT TO BE CONFUSED with Magic Lanterns, works off dry battery. The job youngsters have been looking for. TRIP TO THE MOON, THE CIRCUS and a COMEDY CARTOON. All for 10/- inc. bulb, White Plastic Screen, 5/- extra, 6 extra titles 1/3 each.

No more to pay. Free list watches, Binoculars, etc. TERMS.

In the Air

By the C N Flying Correspondent

Back to balloons!

FREE-FLIGHT balloons are making a comeback in the U.S. Goodyear Aircraft, the main constructors of airship submarine-spotters for the U.S. Navy, are using them to train airship test pilots.

In the event of a complete engine failure an airship has to be handled in much the same way as a balloon, so the test pilots will be given ten hours' instruction in free-flight balloons as a safety measure.

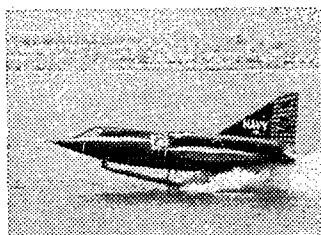
Skyshouting

MALAYA is being used as a testing ground for the latest air-to-ground loudspeakers mounted in an aircraft.

Use of these speakers has until recently been restricted to light planes, but now four of them have been mounted beneath a Vickers Valetta twin-engine transport. The battery of speakers has about 40 times the power of a normal outdoor address system and, from a height of 1500 feet, has a range of about one mile.

As well as being used to encourage bandits to surrender, the Valetta assists aircrews who have baled out over the jungle by guiding them to rescue patrols.

Jet on skis



The first U.S. fighter plane to use hydro-skis is the Sea-Dart, an experimental jet craft here seen taking-off in San Diego Bay, Southern California.

Stratofort speed-up

SPOTTERS in many parts of Britain are already familiar with the outlines of the fast Boeing Stratofort bomber. Now, from America comes news that the Stratofort's big brother—the massive 185-foot span B-52 Stratofortress—is going into large-scale production.

Not only is the B-52 one of the fastest heavy bombers in the air today, it is also credited with being one of the quickest-designed. Basic drawings and specifications were rushed off by six Boeing engineers during the course of a single weekend!

Jets in reverse

JET aircraft have to rely entirely on the power of their brakes for slowing down after landing. If the runway is icy and the wheels skid, the length of landing run required may even be dangerous.

A device which may solve this particular problem is a flap system at the rear of the jet pipe which, on being operated, reverses the direction of the jet blast. More efficient than brakes, such a method would literally blow the aircraft to a standstill.

C N Bookshelf

BRAVE PIONEER

Rolls: *Man of Speed*, by Laurence Meynell (Bodley Head, 9s. 6d.)

MAN of Speed aptly describes Charles Stewart Rolls. In his short life (he was killed in a flying accident when only 33) he wholeheartedly welcomed any new development that would enable him to travel faster.

At college he was an enthusiastic cyclist, earning his half-Blue; in 1903 he broke the world car speed record with 93 m.p.h.; then he turned to ballooning; and finally to flying, becoming the first man to achieve the two-way crossing of the Channel.

In the early days of motoring most of the successful cars were foreign. Rolls's ambition was to make an English car that would beat the world—an ambition that was to be fully realised after his meeting with that great engineer Henry Royce, and the formation of the greatest partnership in motoring annals—Rolls-Royce.

The story of C. S. Rolls is the story of a brave pioneer at the dawn of the Age of Speed—and a most thrilling story it is.

NINETEEN AUTHORS

By Special Request, edited by Noel Streetfield (Collins, 12s. 6d.)

NINETEEN new stories, all by well-known authors and all specially written for girls—that is indeed riches to find between the covers of one book. Miss Streetfield has cast her net wide, and has also written an introduction to each author. All the stories are illustrated.

IN THE DAYS OF SLAVERY

North Winds Blow Free, by Elizabeth Howard (Bodley Head, 7s. 6d.)

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Elspeth McLaren was resentful when her father decided to sell the family farm in Michigan and found a settlement in Canada for freed slaves.

But when she and her young brother find a wounded slave, and again when she arrives at the settlement, Elspeth realises that this is indeed work to which she could willingly devote her whole life.

LIFE STORY OF A SPARROW

Sold for a Farthing, by Clare Kipps (Frederick Muller, 5s.)

THE author was an air raid warden when, one night in 1940, she found a newly-hatched house-sparrow lying on her doorstep. She nursed him back to life, and this book tells of the deep attachment that grew up between them and lasted until he died of old age more than 12 years after.

It is a moving story of a gay and gallant Cockney, and it would be a heartless reader who did not feel that this remarkable sparrow loved his mistress as much as she loved him.

THE TWINS AGAIN

The South African Twins, by Daphne Rooke (Cape, 6s.)

ANOTHER pen carries on the famous series of Twins books which the late Lucy Fitch Perkins made so popular year by year. This new story of the adventures of twins provides a fascinating picture of life in Zululand.

IN A TOY-TOWN WORLD

The Enchanted Horse, by April Jaffé (Hutchinson, 7s. 6d.)

NEVER was there such a fine horse as Silwyn, even though he is only a rocking horse in her father's toy-shop; to Pussy, he is a real live circus horse.

Silwyn takes Pussy and friend Peter on a ride to a magic circus in the Other Land, and there they have many exciting times with the lovable little folk that live in the toy-shop. And when Pussy returns to the everyday world, a very pleasant surprise awaits her.

GUEST HOUSE

Strangers at Brongwerne, by M. E. Allan (Museum Press, 7s. 6d.)

TAFLINE HOWELL said it would kill her to go and live in a town—she just couldn't live away from the farm. But her father insisted that they would have to sell their home near the Severn, and go to live in Shrewsbury.

A compromise was reached by turning Brongwerne into a guest-house, and it was when the visitors arrived that mysterious things began to happen. Here is a very human story for all who love country life.

YOUNG CAVE EXPLORERS

The Pot-Hole Mystery, by Vernon Noble (Staples, 6s.)

GERRY and Janes felt rather like Aladdin when their electric torches shone on the great theatre-like cavern they had found under the Yorkshire Dales; and it was not so much the weird beauty of the place that fascinated them as the evidence of queer goings-on.

All who love underground adventure will stay close to Gerry and Janes—from page one to page 192.

LOYAL HEARTS IN THE BUSH

To See the Queen, by Ann Sheal (Faber and Faber, 9s. 6d.)

MOST story-tellers write of the past, but Ann Sheal here takes a peep into the not-distant future and relates the adventures of five Australian children who are determined to see the Queen pass in the Royal train, though to do so means a 100-mile ride through the deserted bush. It all makes an absorbing tale against an authentic background of lost tracks, swagmen, a "ghost" town, flooded creeks, and bush fires.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

CHAMPLAIN OF THE ST. LAWRENCE, by Ronald Syme (Hodder and Stoughton, 6s. 6d.)

MÈRE MICHEL AND HER CAT—a French classic retold by Margaret Cardew (Muller, 7s. 6d.)

THE FIRST BIGGLES OMNIBUS, by Captain W. E. Johns (Hodder and Stoughton, 12s. 6d.)

MUFFIN AT THE SEASIDE, by Annette Mills (University of London Press, 6s. 6d.)

OLD-FASHIONED FAIRY TALES, by Mrs. Ewing (Bell, 6s. 6d.)

COME BOATING WITH ME, by Percy Woodcock (Muller, 9s. 6d.)

YOUR BOOK OF MAGIC, by Alexander Van Rensselaer (Faber and Faber, 5s. 6d.)

HOW PLANES FLY—a Puffin Picture Book, by Sydney E. Veale and "Wren" (Penguin Books, 2s. 6d.)

FARMS—Men at Work Series—by A. Robinson (Longmans, 3s. 6d.)

The Children's Newspaper, October 24, 1953

RAF MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM IN ACTION

One of our aircraft is missing! No word has been heard from a bomber on a training flight over the North Sea since it reported its position some 50 miles from the coast. Now the time has arrived when the overdue aircraft could no longer have any petrol left.

Emergency operations are at once begun. Aircraft at the RAF Rescue Control Centre are detailed for an air search, and the local Mountain Rescue Team is called out.

THERE are seven RAF Mountain Rescue teams in this country, covering Scotland, Wales, the Peak District, and the Pennines. The busiest and biggest units, each with 36 men, are at Valley in Anglesey, which covers Snowdonia, and at Kinloss, which is responsible for the treacherous Cairngorms and the whole of Scotland north of latitude 56 degrees 50 minutes.

The Mountain Rescue Teams are composed entirely of volunteers, who receive no extra pay or reward for their services. Except for the N.C.O. in charge, each man carries on the normal duties of his trade as clerk, rigger, fitter, or whatever he happens to be. It is his own spare time and weekends that he gives up in order to learn rock-climbing, mountaineering, and first aid.

Weekend after weekend he devotes to long route marches and roughing it under canvas in snow, so that when the need arises he is thoroughly fit and able to withstand the rigours of the arduous mountain territory and cold.

And such is the enthusiasm of the men that, with a long waiting list of applicants, a member of the unit will think twice about taking a weekend pass for fear of missing an exercise and losing his place in the team.

As soon as the alarm sounds, he breaks off his normal work, or rolls out of bed if it is night, and gathers his equipment—compass, walkie-talkie, blankets, snowboots, and special clothing. Within 15 minutes the complete Team—ambulance, radio van, and two

trucks carrying men, provisions, cooking equipment, and tents—must be ready to leave.

As soon as the Rescue Co-ordination Centre has obtained information about the possible area where the crash has occurred, the Team is warned. They then proceed as near as possible to the scene and set up a base camp.

TIME is of course all-important in mountain rescue. The fate of survivors may depend upon the speed with which medical assistance reaches them. That was a fact brought home particularly to Flight-Lieut. Graham, a medical officer stationed in North Wales in 1942. Too often he was called to the scene of a crash in the Welsh hills just too late to save life.

Graham was an enthusiastic mountaineer himself, and he appealed for volunteers on his own station. Then he began to train them in climbing and first aid. His order for special climbing and rescue equipment was approved, and that year his team saved no fewer than 33 lives from aircraft that had crashed in the hills of North Wales. The RAF Mountain Rescue service was born.

LET us now see what happens in a typical instance of mountain rescue in the Highlands.

The radio van keeps in constant touch with base, and soon messages—relayed by police, by local climbing clubs, or telephoned direct by scattered Highland villagers—begin to trickle in. A fisherman on the coast, a woman 20 miles inland, both heard the

sound of an aeroplane. A gillie reports a flash in the sky. A crofter has seen thick, black smoke . . .

The times and places of the information are plotted on a map. Items are checked one against another, and also with the aircraft's route, speed, and petrol endurance. The area of search is beginning to take shape. It has narrowed down to an area of about 50 square miles.

The leader of the Mountain Rescue Team changes his plans for the position of the base camp and drives to the village from which the black smoke was reported. He picks up the village policeman who takes him out to the crofter who saw the smoke.

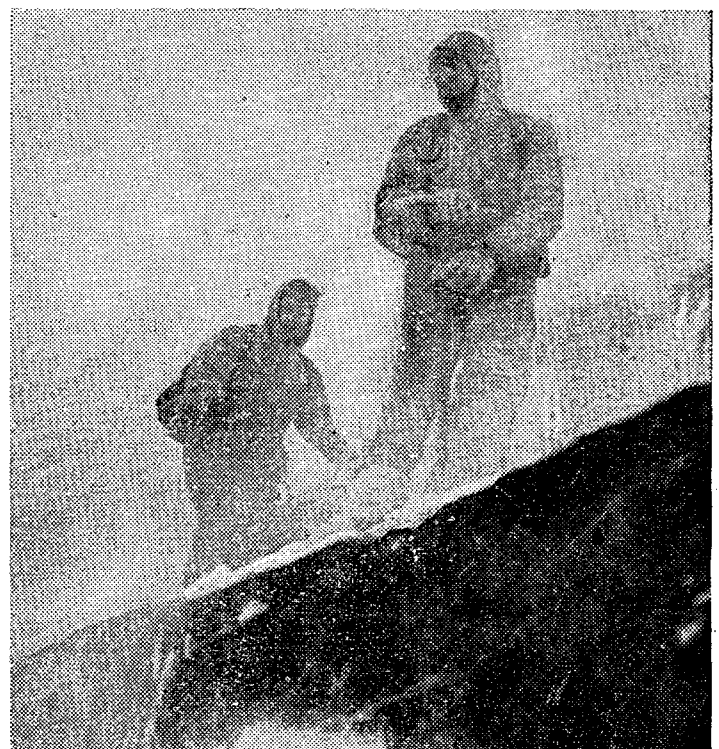
The crofter repeats his story in detail. The time, the description of the smoke, add up; there can be little doubt that it is smoke from an aircraft crash that the crofter has seen. This places the disaster some miles away, high up on one of the most inaccessible mountains in the region.

OUT there on the mountain top there may be survivors from the aircraft's crew. Men may be dying for want of urgent medical attention. Men, ignorant of the treacherous ravines over which they may plunge to death, may be setting off blindly to try to bring help to injured comrades.

The whole Highland community automatically becomes mobilised against the hills. Crofters, gillies, civilian mountain climbers advise on the best routes, and offer their services as guides.

The Mountain Rescue Team drives as far as motor transport can possibly go up the mountain and sets up the base camp. The ambulance is ready to convey survivors to hospital. The kitchen truck starts to prepare hot meals. The radio van maintains contact with base and with the walkie-talkies carried by the men of the Team, who normally search in pairs.

As the search or climb extends farther from base wireless links—usually one operator to three pairs of searchers—may have to be established to maintain communication between searchers and base. The base radio can also receive direct radio telephone messages from the aircraft searching overhead.



Shrouded in mist, two members of a Mountain Rescue Team pause on a ridge high in the mountains. Conditions like these are among the hazards they may have to face during a rescue



A team studies maps of the locality in which they are to work

The searchers carry Veray pistols and red and white signal cartridges.

The white ones are used for lighting up the countryside in order to check their position, and also as a signal that they have found a survivor. A red cartridge is used when the aircraft is found. All other searchers then abandon their areas of search and, taking a compass bearing on the light, make for the position.

MEANWHILE, the finder is radioing back the number of casualties and details of the type and seriousness of the injuries so far as he can see.

Guided by this report, the medical officer sets off with the equipment that he will need before the casualties, on stretchers fitted with skids to facilitate their transport down the sheer rock faces of the mountainside, can reach the ambulance.

The RAF Rescue Control centre is notified that the crash has been found, and the search is called off. The aircraft return to their bases, and the members of the Mountain Rescue Team drive back to their station to pick up the threads of their normal job.

Their reward is the knowledge that one of their comrades, or the survivor of a civil air disaster, as the case may be, now lies in hospi-

tal with the chance of life that he would not otherwise have had.

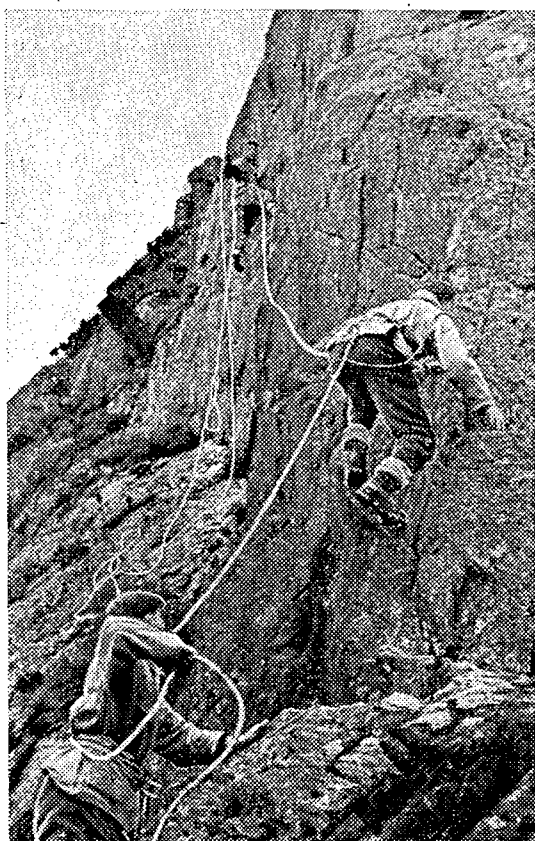
IF a crash occurs in the Pennines, prominent among the search parties will be the motorised mountain rescue team of the 1855 ATC squadron which is stationed at Royton, Lancashire. The team of 16 senior cadets was formed by the ATC officer, Squadron-Leader Robert Kenworthy, a keen climber and former T.T. rider.

The boys use their own motor-cycles and have a motor-cycle combination and a car and trailer for their equipment, much of which they pay for themselves out of their own pocket money.

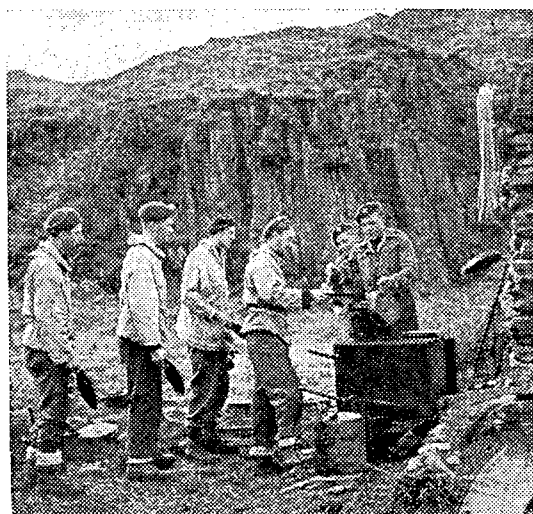
Although the main purpose of the team is to train the cadets in leadership and initiative, the team has taken part in many searches and have helped by mounting guard at crashes.

On one occasion they helped the RAF Mountain Rescue Team recover the crew from a crashed Consul aircraft in the Pennines.

Since then they have been naturally very anxious to be incorporated in the Mountain Rescue Service proper. For various reasons this has not so far been possible; but it does not detract from the value of their service as an auxiliary rescue team in the Lancashire area.



Team work is essential, and the picture on the left shows men learning how to use the ropes while climbing. Below: hungry men line up for the food their comrades have cooked for them



Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · EC4
OCTOBER 24 1953

OFF RATION

THE end of all food rationing in Britain is practically in sight. After 14 years no more ration books are to be printed.

Like other hardships, rationing has had its moral value in imposing self-discipline. But now that the shortages are virtually over, it would be a mistake to assume that we shall henceforth be blessed with bounteous and cheap food supplies.

We are affected by conditions in other lands, and the Food and Agriculture Organisation warns us that only in 1952-53 did world food production catch up with the growth of population for the first time since the war. These experts tell us that some 70 per cent of the world's people still live below the present average world diet.

"Compared with the real human needs of the deficit countries," says the FAO Director-General, Mr. Norris E. Dodd, "food stocks now accumulating shrink into insignificance."

What is to be done for these hungry millions? Mr. Dodd points out the vital necessity of raising the food production of the under-developed areas.

The world's future welfare must depend on the application of the Christian teaching that the fortunate should help the less fortunate.

UNITED NATIONS DAY

THIS Saturday, October 24, is United Nations Day, and it is a day on which we should all turn our thoughts to this great world organisation whose role is to prevent wars and to work solely for the well-being of humanity.

That is beyond all doubt the world's hardest task; and beyond all doubt it is also the most worthwhile task, for whatever its detractors may say, UN still stands as mankind's chief hope of preserving civilisation.

But it cannot endure without the support of people of goodwill everywhere. That support every one of us can give through the United Nations Association.

Our Roman roads

EVERYBODY knows that one great step toward the solution of the road safety problem will be better roads.

The President of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, Mr. W. R. Black, emphasised this recently when he said: "There has been no national road plan put into effect since the days of the Roman occupation, and some of our trunk roads are more suitable for the density of traffic in those days than they are to cope with present needs."

He added that a third of the road accidents could be avoided and millions of pounds saved if we had a modern road system.

Boys and girls today, as they survey the chaotic traffic conditions bequeathed by an older generation, must feel with him that "it is surely not a question of can we afford it—we just cannot afford not to do something."

JUST AN IDEA

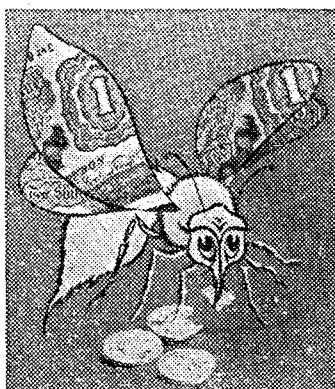
As Emerson wrote: The simpler idea is probably the right one.

The Editor's Table

Swat that Fritter Fly

A REPORT about money in the Colonies says that termites eat banknotes unless they are specially safeguarded.

In this country posters are now warning us of another



dangerous insect, the Fritter Fly, which also has an insatiable appetite for money.

This insidious creature can be kept at bay by National Savings, which are as vital in peacetime as they were in war.

Le chapeau melon

AT least one Frenchman visiting London has been impressed by the bowler hat's return to favour.

He is M. Jacques de Lacrete, and in no uncertain terms he has expressed his views in the Paris newspaper Le Figaro.

"The bowler hat has reappeared, and I would like French Youth to know that in London a hat uniquely distinguishes a member of the managerial class. If you add a hard collar and well-rolled umbrella, you have the figure, from top to toe, of a gentleman who is courteous, but proud of being what he is."

After such a tribute, we feel that ambitious schoolboys should be encouraged to save up for a bowler. With a little pardonable self-righteousness, too, we also feel that if Frenchmen would return to le chapeau melon, political stability might also return.

Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, October 27, 1923

ALTHOUGH 76 years old, Thomas Alva Edison is still hard at work, and is constantly inventing new machines and new processes.

No other inventor living—and probably no other inventor of all time—has made so many discoveries and applied them to practical uses; and all over the world millions of people find lucrative employment as a result of his inventions.

In the United States alone, according to a recent estimate, a million people have well-paid and regular employment directly as a result of Edison's work. Indirectly the number is vastly greater, and the real wealth added to the world through his inventive ability is incalculable.

STILL GOING STRONG

AS a young lady of 26, the attention of Mrs. Briggs of Grantham was attracted by a poster on a horse-drawn bus in the Strand in the year 1884.

Her interest was aroused in a society it advertised, and she became one of its most energetic Honorary Local Secretaries. Today, at the age of 95, she still shows as great an interest and gives as much support as ever.

She was a Local Secretary up to 1944, and though she has been totally blind for the past five years she still manages to knit simple articles for sale, putting the proceeds in a box for The Church of England Children's Society.

It is a truly remarkable record of constant and loyal service, and must be almost unequalled.

Think on These Things

ELIJAH was a national hero and a loved leader. He was an outspoken and fearless man, who, to give effective service to his people, kept one step ahead of Ahab the King.

When everything went his way Elijah knew what to say and what to do. But on one occasion things went wrong and he sulked.

The wicked Queen Jezebel had taunted him, and Elijah, not liking to be laughed at, ran away to hide under a juniper tree.

Later, sad at heart and sorry for himself, he was living in a cave when God asked him: "What doest thou here, Elijah?" (First Book of Kings, chapter 19). Elijah, a great prophet and powerful leader, had to learn that God was always with him.

We, too, have to learn that lesson. When we feel defeated by circumstances it is no good running away. F.P.

SILENT FRIEND

The great end Of poesy, that it should be a friend

To soothe the cares, and lift the thoughts of man. John Keats

The Children's Newspaper, October 24, 1953

THEY SAY . . .

TELEVISION does not stop people reading, but in fact has revived interest in old favourites.

Hackney Public Libraries Committee

IF I could prevent it, I would never permit children to watch television for longer than seven hours a week.

Miss Freda Lingstrom, Head of Children's TV

WE look to the older countries for cultural leadership and guidance in the arts.

Director of the National Arts Foundation of New York

THE postmen in this country walk about 200 million miles a year.

Mr. L. D. Gammans, Assistant P.M.G.

THE most refined man I have ever met was an Irish road sweeper. His knowledge was far greater than mine and he was very intelligent.

Judge Wilfrid Clothier, Q.C.

IN the first half of this year the country has been spending over £60,000,000 more on sweets than in the corresponding period last year.

Major G. Lloyd-George, Minister of Food

Out and about

OBSERVED from high ground on the moors, the Kestrel Hawk hovering high above the plain is a wonderful sight. It seems to be quite still, but the wings are moving rapidly in a strong fluttering beat.

Suddenly it will cease this motion and, driven by a few powerful wing-strokes, will swoop down on its prey, a small animal or some bird either on the ground or flying low.

Another name for the Kestrel is the windhover, which is a reminder of that marvellous sonnet on the bird by Gerard Manley Hopkins.

But a mouse, a rat, or a rabbit knows very well when the Kestrel is hovering above, and is less interested in the poetry of its flight than in avoiding its strong talons.

C. D. D.

Under the Editor's Table

PETER PUCK
WANTS TO
KNOW

If fishermen often drop a line without getting a reply

Are children of today never taught to be tidy? demands a correspondent. Wants the matter cleared up.

The aim of a pony club is to turn out polished riders. And make them shine.

Some London policemen answer up to 200 questions a day. Usually they seem to answer down.

Always have a good light for reading, says a doctor. And a good book.

Children are anxious to be given a chance to please, says a teacher. And not only to please themselves.

A village is to acquire a portable building as a village stores. But does not want any shoplifters.

BILLY BEETLE



OUR HOMELAND

The 95-year-old redwood trees at Leighton, near Welshpool

The Children's Newspaper, October 24, 1953

STATE BARGE BECOMES MUSEUM PIECE

SOON to leave the royal boathouse on the Thames bank at Windsor for its final resting-place in the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, is the State Barge, which made a farewell public appearance in T V's "London Town" last month.

The State Barge was built in 1689 by William III for Mary II, who, according to the entries in her Establishment Book, paid an annual salary of £20 to her "Master of ye Barges," Mr. Christopher Hill. She also retained a staff of 24 watermen who each received £3 2s. 6d. a year.

Forty feet long, the barge was designed on Dutch lines and hewn from English oak, thus appropriately merging the national characteristics of both William of Orange and his English queen.

She was built for speed, with a light, low, sweeping hull that the

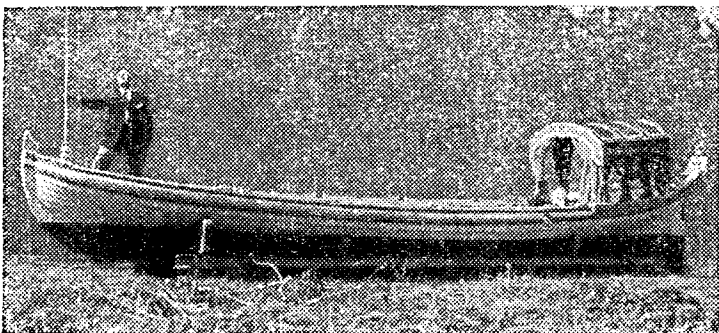


The beautiful work at the stern

crew of ten oarsmen could send skimming easily over the water. Her royal passengers travelled in the stern under a canopy of crimson and gold, surmounted by a crown. On the stern, too, is emblazoned the coat of arms.

Little is recorded of the early history of the State Barge. After the reign of Queen Anne, she fell into disuse, scorned by the Georges of Hanover. They preferred the massive, ornate barge built for Prince Frederick in 1732, and last used in October 1849, when the Prince of Wales, deputising for Queen Victoria, travelled up the Thames to open the Coal Exchange.

In the files of the royal household the William and Mary State Barge was given the name "shallop," to distinguish her from the Frederick State Barge. She was then forgotten.



The State Barge, built by William III in 1689

It was not until the beginning of this century that the State Barge, overhauled and renovated by King Edward VII, who intended to use her as a part of his Coronation celebrations, reappeared on the Thames as the oldest craft afloat. The king's illness ruled out his Coronation plans, but in June 1904 he visited Eton in the barge.

A magnificent spectacle it must have been—the Royal Standard flying, and a sovereign's crown perched on top of a mast in the prow; and the Watermen, in their livery of scarlet embroidered with gold, pulling on gleaming red oars.

ETON COLLEGE ESCORT

Queen Alexandra pushed back the curtains so that her grandsons might have a better view of the crowds cheering on the banks where the band of the Coldstream Guards was playing the Eton boating song.

Adding to the splendour and pageantry of that June afternoon was an escort of Eton College boats, gaily dressed in their traditional Fourth of June rig.

In 1913 King George V and Queen Mary paid a similar visit to Eton College in the State Barge, which was used again for the last time in the Peace Pageant in 1919.

A regal sight she still looks, ready, it seems at first glance, to slide straight down the slipway into the water. But appearances are deceptive; more than a quarter of a century ago the State Barge was condemned as unseaworthy.

CORONATION IDEA

On various occasions there have been calls for her restoration. This year particularly civic authorities in this country and the Dominions sought the privilege of undertaking the restoration so that the State Barge might play a part in the Coronation pageantry. The decision was, however, that it was quite impracticable to put the Barge back on the water.

Soon now, it is expected, the State Barge will leave the privacy of the royal boathouse at Windsor to end her days as a museum piece at Greenwich. And, like a chauffeur without a car, the Queen's Bargemaster and her Watermen, all holding the office by virtue of outstanding prowess as oarsmen, will be left without even a State Barge in a boathouse to their name.

Determined to be an actor

A film star has this month been working at the studios where, eight years ago, he was told he was "not quite the type for a film actor."

That was at the Riverside Studios at Hammersmith, where he has been playing the title role in a new picture of G. K. Chesterton's *Father Brown*.

He received the first of his "sorry-you're-no-good" discouragements when, wanting to appear in a school play, the headmaster told him, "You wouldn't be any good at acting." Later, as a young man, he heard much the same opinion from a famous actress, to whom he had gone for lessons. In fact, she gave him back his fees.

But he was not to be deterred. He slogged on, and later joined the Old Vic Company. Then the war interrupted his professional efforts, and when he was demobilised he thought he would try the films.

He needed all his courage again to fight despair when the producer at Riverside Studios turned him down flat. But since that day he has piled up a list of successes and is now one of our leading actors.

His name? Alec Guinness.

CONCERTS FOR CHILDREN

An exciting season of orchestral concerts for young music-lovers in London has now started.

The Ernest Read concerts for children are being given at the Royal Festival Hall on Saturday mornings at 11 o'clock on November 7, December 5, January 30, February 27, March 20, May 8; and the Robert Mayer concerts will be given there on October 31, November 21, December 12, February 6, March 6, and April 3.

The Sadler's Wells Orchestra is playing for the first time at the Ernest Read concerts on February 27, and there will also be performances by the Philharmonia, the London Symphony, the Royal Philharmonic, and the London Senior orchestras. At the Robert Mayer sessions the London Symphony and the London Philharmonic will play.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra will also play at eight special concerts, arranged by the L.C.C., to be attended by over 17,000 secondary school children.

TATTOOED FISH WANTED

When people in Denmark saw in the windows of many fish shops notices reading: *Wanted—a tattooed plaice*, and announcing a reward of five kroner (about five shillings) they thought that it was a hoax.

It was no hoax, however, for fish with a cross or circle marked in Indian ink, and bearing a plastic tag indicating where they were put in the water, are being liberated.

The first 700 fish so marked were liberated off the Danish coast. It is hoped that important information will be gained about plaice stocks in the North Sea and waters around the Danish coast.

Rob Roy as Royal Film



The Red Coats are sent to quell a Highland uprising



Argyle (James Robertson Justice) is angry with Rob Roy



Rob and Helen Mary on their wedding day



Aunt Maggie (Marjorie Fielding) gives Helen Mary an apron

Sir Walter Scott's stirring story of that Highland adventurer Rob Roy has been made into a Technicolor film by Walt Disney. Featuring Richard Todd as Rob Roy and Glynis Johns as his wife, Helen Mary, it will be seen by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at the Royal Film Performance at the Odeon, Leicester Square, London, next Monday.

END OF A SHAM CASTLE

Travellers on the Birmingham to Chester road will soon be missing a familiar landmark.

It is the ruined castle in the Shropshire village of Tong. The owner of the castle, the Earl of Bradford, has decided that the ruins are dangerous and they are to be demolished.

Legend has it that the first castle at Tong was built by Hengist the Jute. He had been invited by the British king Vortigern to help in wars against the northern tribes, and as his reward Vortigern offered him as much land as could be enclosed by an ox-hide. Hengist cut his ox-hide into narrow thongs which he stretched round what is now the parish of Tong.

DURANT'S FOLLY

Whatever the truth of that story, there has certainly been a castle at Tong since Norman times. But the present building is less than 200 years old.

In 1764 a wealthy and eccentric squire named George Durant razed the old castle to the ground and built on its site a strange mixture of Moorish palace and Norman castle, with domes, minarets, and battlements. It is this "folly" of Squire Durant's which has now fallen into decay.

Even without its strange castle, Tong will still be notable for its historic church, which has been called the Westminster Abbey of the Midlands. It was described by Dickens as the last resting-place of Little Nell in his story *The Old Curiosity Shop*.

CHOIRBOYS ON TOUR

A party of choirboys from St. Paul's Cathedral are making an eight-week tour of Canada and America.

Montreal, Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, are among the 39 cities where they are to sing, and their final appearance before leaving for England will be at the famous Carnegie Hall in New York.

Steps to Sporting Fame



A vast company of Jones's have played Rugby for Wales, but none with greater distinction than Ken Jones, the famous Newport wing three-quarter.



Born at Blaenavon in 1921, he played his first "Rugby" in the streets of that town. The "ball" was a bundle of newspapers. He was captain of the XV at St. Paul's, Cheltenham, in the early days of the war.



Home from India in 1946 after war service with the R.A.F., Ken joined Newport and they have had his services ever since. In 1950 he scored 17 tries for the British Isles Rugby team which toured New Zealand.

Ken Jones



His second interest is the track, and he has been Wales's champion sprinter since the war. Nowhere is Ken Jones more popular than at Newport High School for Boys, where he is the games master.

SPORTS CARS ON PARADE

The fastest sports car in the world, the C-type Jaguar, is on view in the Motor Show at Earls Court, which is open from October 21 to 31.

The Jaguar is the actual model which won the 1953 Le Mans 24-hour Grand Prix d'Endurance, covering 2534 miles at a record average speed of 104 m.p.h.

One of its chief rivals, the Austin Healey 100 sports car, is also among the special cars at the Show. It broke over 100 records last month at Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, U.S.A.

EIGHT MILES OF WIRING

The "Car of Tomorrow" is seen among these speedy champions. It is a Lincoln X100 built by the Ford company, and has a moisture-sensitive electrical device which closes the canopy and windows in rain. For its many other electrical gadgets some eight miles of wiring is used.

Many other countries are taking part in the Show, which this year occupies the greatest stand space in its history. In the British section the 8 h.p. "baby" is much in evidence, the high price of petrol having brought back this sturdy infant to favour.

Not only cars, however, but carriage work, motor boats and marine engines, caravans and light trailers, and motoring equipment of all kinds are displayed on about 540 stands.

ONE FOR THE OLD FOLK

When they buy a bag of sweets, the children of Ashmole Street in Lambeth think of the old people of their borough and put one sweet into a box which they keep in school.

Now the box of sweets—all wrapped ones—has been given to the Lambeth Old People's Housing Society for distribution to the old folk, together with the produce offered at the school's Harvest Festival Thanksgiving.

LADY IN SILK AT THE UNITED NATIONS

In electing Mrs. Vijaya Pandit of India as its new president, the United Nations not only elects the first woman to preside over it, but one who is known throughout Asia as "the lady in silk," from her custom of wrapping herself in rich silk saris.

Sometimes (writes a C.N. correspondent who has met her) Mrs. Pandit has been known as "a rebel in silk," from her years of battle for India's independence.

She was named Swarup Karumi—"beautiful princess"—at birth.

UNDERGROUND LAB.

Professor Henry Messel, lecturer at the Sydney University, is soon to go underground to carry out unique experiments with cosmic rays.

Professor Messel has already sent balloons 20 miles above Sydney. These were fitted with photographic plates to collect evidence of the cosmic rays which bombard the earth from outer space.

The professor's latest plan is to drive an "atom tunnel" from the Sydney University's School of Physics to a laboratory 50 feet below ground level.

In her young womanhood she fought alongside her brother, Mr. Nehru, India's present Prime Minister, and served three sentences in a British gaol for her opposition to the Government.

But the "lady in silk" never became embittered in spirit. Now, at 53—a grandmother of four—she still carries on the struggle of demanding freedom for all Asia's peoples.

She learned her patriotism from her father, a rich Indian lawyer who was a friend of Gandhi.

Her home was a meeting-place where all the leaders of India came to plan and dream about the future of their country. She and her brother and sister listened to the conversations, and ever since then the "lady in silk" has been a keen politician.

When she and her husband, Ranjit Pandit, were married at Allahabad in 1921, so many Indian politicians gathered that the Government was concerned that there might be disorders.

Fourteen years later Mrs. Pandit was elected to the municipal council of Allahabad as its first woman member. It was the first

of many "firsts" that Mrs. Pandit has to her credit.

Two years later she was India's first woman cabinet minister. And she was the first woman to lead a delegation to the United Nations.

Then India sent her as ambassador to Moscow and Washington, and again she was the first woman to occupy those posts.

Now Mrs. Pandit is called upon to preside over the greatest assembly of the world's nations, and she will do it with a grace equal to her efficiency.

JOKING JACKDAW

London's naughtiest jackdaw, Jack Keppel, has been confined on Duck Island in St. James's Park.

His misdemeanours included perching on the tops of policemen's helmets, taking screws from a workshop, and undoing boot-laces.

His own undoing came, however, when he turned his attention to clothes lines. He would wait until a line was filled with washing, and then pull out the pegs.

The Ministry of Works decided that Jack had better be taken into custody.

THE REAL ROBINSON CRUSOE—the strange life-story of Alexander Selkirk (7)



Captain Rogers of the Duke had heard that Selkirk was a fine seaman, and he made him first mate. Alexander found it difficult at first to get used again to wearing civilised clothes and eating with a knife and fork. He learned that his former ship, the Cinque Ports, had been wrecked, as he had foreseen. The Duke and Duchess left the island in February 1709, and sailed in search of Spanish ships as prizes.



The two vessels were privateers, for England was still at war with Spain. They captured several prizes, and then took the town of Guayaquil in Peru. Hearing that some ladies had taken refuge in a large house there, Rogers sent Selkirk and some sailors to them in search of plunder, trusting Selkirk to treat the señoras courteously. He was so polite that they gave him and his men wine.



After more adventures Selkirk reached London in October 1711, and received £800 as his share of the prize-money. Later he went home to Largo. It is said he arrived there to find everyone at kirk. At first no one knew who this richly-dressed stranger was, then his mother recognised him and rushed to his arms. The service ended abruptly, the congregation trooping out with the long-lost Alexander!



But Selkirk was not happy. He could not get used to living in a community again. His four years and four months alone had made him morose and unsociable. He built himself a hut on the hill near the village, and there he would sit for hours at a time, staring out over the bay, as he had so often sat on his island. The only person who seemed to understand his mood was a young woman named Sophia Bruce.

Has Alexander at last found a sympathetic friend in Sophia? See next week's concluding instalment

The Children's Newspaper, October 24, 1953

Continuing

DANGER MOUNTAIN

by Patrick Pringle

Jack and Robin Hilton are with their parents in Switzerland. When skiing with Junge, the daughter of a ski instructor, they see a man steal an attaché case from their hotel, and they track him to the power station on Danger Mountain. There the man, Otto Bauer, has a quarrel with his brother, and as he skis away Junge says she knows where he is going.

8. The Dark Forest

"HE is going to a village called Heidelberg," said Junge. "It is about 30 kilometres away. I know he goes there, for the way he takes leads nowhere else. It will take him a long time, so I go and get help."

"From Edelberg?" asked Jack.

"No, I get my father, Rudi. He has gone up in the chair-lift, farther round the mountain. From there it will be easy to catch Otto."

"What do we do?" asked Robin.

"You must follow Otto. Keep well above him, and do not let him see you, or he will make for the Dark Forest."

"Where's that?"

"It is on the way to Heidelberg, but the trees are thick and Otto will avoid it unless he knows he is being chased. If he went into it he would not be easy to find."

"I can't see Otto now," said Robin, looking down.

"You will again soon. He has to go round the mountain. You must follow until you see the chair-lift station. Then Rudi will go down, and you must signal to him to show where Otto is."

The keeper of the power station had gone back inside, and Junge led the way along the line of trees. As Otto came into view again, a long way below, Junge drew the boys into the shelter of some rocks.

"Move quickly and not often, and always keep cover," she told them. "Try not to go higher or lower, and just follow the mountain round. Goodbye."

Without Junge

They watched her ski swiftly back to the river and cross by the plank bridge. Then she began to climb diagonally.

"She goes faster up than we come down," said Jack enviously.

They looked down again at Otto, and then went forward. The mountainside was strewn with huge rocks, so the cover was good.

"Be careful not to hit anything," Jack warned his brother.

They stopped at another large rock, and looked down again. The mountain curved sharply and they had a clear view of Otto and his path ahead for some distance. He was going along the straight now, using his sticks vigorously.

They followed Junge's advice, and went forward in short bursts, so that even if Otto was to look up it was unlikely that he would see them. Soon they were out of sight of the power station, and the man

below was the only sign of life in the mountains.

"There's a forest," said Robin, pointing down.

It was some distance beyond Otto, and he was coming nearer to the mountain in order to avoid it. The boys guessed that it was the Dark Forest.

They had been going about half an hour when they caught sight of a white building higher up on the mountain. It was on a kind of ledge, well above them, but still a long way below the summit.

"That must be the chair-lift station. We'd better go on a bit, anyway," said Jack—and then stopped.

Straight ahead of them was a sharp gash in the mountainside—a crevasse.

"We can't get across that," said Robin.

Jack knew they could not. The trouble was that they could hardly be seen where they were from the chair-lift station, and were in a bad position for signalling.

A glance upward told Jack that they could never climb above the crevasse. He looked down and saw unbroken snow far below.

"We'll have to stay here until Otto has passed," he said. "Then we'll have to go down and follow, and try to get above him again when we're across."

They took cover, and saw Otto coming nearer to the mountain. He passed immediately below

them, and was soon out of sight. Then they went down sideways until they reached the bottom of the crevasse, and followed Otto's tracks to the other side. They were still in Otto's tracks when they began to climb again, for he also had been making height.

They went cautiously, all the time on the look-out for Otto. Suddenly he appeared on a ridge about 40 yards ahead. He had gained a lot of height—too much for Jack's liking. The slope there was mainly free from rocks, and there was almost no cover.

"We'll never get above him here," he said.

"If we go to that mound we'll have some cover," said Robin, pointing ahead. "And we may be able to signal to Rudi from there."

It meant remaining below Otto, but it was better than following in his tracks. The boys were in a shallow hollow now, and though they could see little they were easily to be seen by others.

They reached the mound, which was quite near the edge of the Dark Forest, and kept below it while they looked up cautiously. Otto was not far above them, and he had stopped climbing, but was now gliding easily along the straight.

Moving dots

The chair-lift station was still a long way off, but they could see three little moving dots by the side of it.

Otto saw them, too. He stopped and looked up. Jack and Robin tried to follow his gaze—and when the dots appeared again they were bigger and coming down fast.

"It must be Rudi," said Jack, for it was obvious that the three dots were figures of expert ski-ers. "Why do they give themselves away?"

Then he saw one of the three dots wave his arms in a signal, and Jack knew what had happened. Junge had told them he and Robin would be above Otto, and from that distance they would be unable to tell whether the figure was a man or boy. They were signalling to Otto!

And Otto was signalling back. He could not know that the three ski-ers were seeking him, but he did not want them anywhere near. He waved his arms, pointed in the direction of the crevasse, and glided forward again.

Jack knew what Otto would make for now. And he knew there was only one way to stop him.

He climbed up the mound to get a good start. He could see the three ski-ers making for the crevasse while Otto was still going along the straight, away from them.

"Get up here and signal to them," he told his brother. He saw Otto turn, as he had expected, and begin to go down the slope towards the safety of the Dark Forest.

Jack was nearer the forest than was Otto, but his way led diagonally

Continued on page 10



"Uncle!..."



if you...



rescue...



Kitty...



we'll give you a...



SILMOS LOLLIE!"

Everyone loves



SUCH LUSCIOUS FLAVOURS!

The real taste of lovely, juicy fruit—and how the flavour lasts! Silmos Lollies are made by Batger's, famous for fine sweets for over 200 years!

They're BATGER'S—sweets ahead of the rest!

It's strange but true...



... that we obtain from the seeds of Flax the linseed oil which is the chief material used in linoleum.

The oil is extracted from the seeds by boiling or by pressure. It then goes through a process of drying, after which it appears as a pale yellow solid mass.

Resin and gum are next mixed in to form a kind of linoleum cement, and later, powdered wood, cork, and colouring pigments are added. The final stage is reached when the canvas backing is united to the compound by the aid of steam-heated and water-cooled rollers.

After hardening and polishing the linoleum is hung up in loops in huge ovens and left to dry for about four weeks.

The Ideal STAMP Outfit

Free Gift . . . 50 different stamps
with every outfit

13/6
plus postage 1/-

The IDEAL STAMP OUTFIT contains some more stamps and—

1. 100 page illustrated album
2. 48 page book — "Collecting Stamps"
3. 1,000 stamp hinges
4. Tweezers
5. Perforation Gauge

The stamp outfit has everything you need to start a collection of stamps. Send 14/6 for an outfit (including postage) and we will send you the outfit and 50 extra stamps free.

MASON REED LTD., 14 Dominion Street, Moorgate, E.C.2

FREE! to Collectors
an Adventure Packet
With the EVEREST CONQUEST stamp




This superb new issue to commemorate the stupendous event is just one of several thrilling stamps which we offer absolutely FREE! Others include: Captain Cook's re-discovery of New Zealand, Discovery of Gold in Australia, Stephenson's Invention of the Steam Engine showing the famous "Rocket." This wonderful collection will be sent free with our STERLING discount Approvals, which are specially selected to include many real bargains—Triangulars, Airmails, Railway, Ship and Sports stamps, 1d. each. Just send 21d. for postage now to:

STERLING STAMP SERVICE (Dept. C.N.2), LANCING, SUSSEX

AUSTRALIA
1/6 and 2/-

These two HIGH VALUE ISSUES



FREE TO ALL asking for my FAMOUS DISCOUNT APPROVALS and enclosing 3d. postage

BERNARD E. SHERWOOD (30/CN), 97 HEATH LANE, IPSWICH

FREE 7 NEW BR. EMPIRE
Illustrated including 4 Coronations



(Gibraltar Coron. & S. Rhodesia Q.E. in place of Malta and N. Rhodesia illustrated.) All Free to collectors asking to see our famous 'Quality' Approvals (discount or non-discount). Send 3d. (abroad 6d.) for our postage and illustrated list. If you wish you may join "THE CODE STAMP CLUB," Sub. 1/- You receive Badge, Membership Card listing fine gifts, and Approvals monthly. (Gifts inc. Plated Tweezers, etc.) Please state if adult collector. Monthly selections a speciality. (Postal Section Est. 1897).

WRIGHT'S STAMP SHOP (Dept. 22), 29 Palace Street, CANTERBURY, Kent.

CAMEL & GURGI FREE
ABSOLUTELY FREE. To all who ask to see a Selection of Windsor Stamps On Approval, the Windsor Stamp Co. will send Absolutely Free this Lovely New Issue, the first Queen Elizabeth stamp for BRITISH SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE. The native Somali is a nomad and uses a portable beehive-shaped house, called a Gurgi, which is carried about on a Camel, as shown in the picture on this stamp.



To get it free, just ask for a Camel & Gurgi Stamp Free, and ask to see a Selection of Windsor Stamps On Approval. Please enclose 21d. stamp for posting these to you. WRITE NOW before you forget and miss this wonderful offer to add this interesting new stamp free to your very own collection, to:

WINDSOR STAMP CO. (Dept. CN), UCKFIELD, SUSSEX

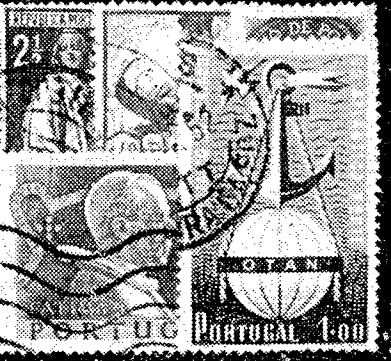
25 FREE PORTUGAL

To obtain these magnificent and beautifully coloured stamps for your album send 3d. postage for a selection of our WORLD FAMOUS APPROVALS.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AVON STAMPS
(Dept. C.N.23.) Lowestoft



SPORTS SHORTS

THE Hove Manor School, of Brighton, have represented the Southern Counties in the English Schools team swimming championship during the last two years without winning the title. This year, at their third attempt, they have become champions.

SOUTHEND UNITED F.C.'s trainer is Wilfred Copping, former Arsenal and English international half-back; his assistant is Dave Robinson, who played for Southend United. Both have sons, and, following in father's footsteps, they are now playing for Leyton, the London amateur club.



Bowler in profile

Alec Bedser, the great England and Surrey bowler, is to have his effigy in Madame Tussaud's famous waxworks exhibition in London. Here Alec is being "measured" by Mr. Bernard Tussaud while his batsman brother, Eric, looks on.

DIANE LEATHER, 21, from Birmingham, has run a mile in the fastest time ever set up by a woman—5 minutes 2.6 seconds. Although there is no recognised world record for a women's one mile, this is a new national and British all-comers record.

JIM PETERS has knocked over five seconds off his time for the marathon—a time that foreigners believed could not be achieved. In Turku, Finland, he recently ran the distance in 2 hours 18 minutes 38.4 seconds, beating his nearest rival by 14 miles.

A BUSY day was spent recently by Bill Chinn, the Universities light-heavyweight champion. During the day he took a physics exam at Trinity College, Dublin. His examination over, he dashed to the airport to travel to the Albert Hall, where he boxed for Dublin and Leinster against the London team.

THE King Alfred School at Plon, whose pupils are sons of British soldiers serving in the Army of the Rhine, have won the Milocarian Trophy for the second successive year. The trophy is awarded by the A.A.A. for a competition on a points basis.

TERENCE MOSS, of Maldon Grammar School, Essex, is only 15, but already he is attracting the notice of leading amateur Soccer clubs. He scored 26 goals last season for Chelmsford and District Schools, in London, Essex, and National schoolboys competitions. He may receive his international cap before the end of this season.

BRITAIN'S best all-round cyclist this year is Vic Gibbons, of Brentwood, Essex, who rode a fastest-ever 100 miles, the fastest 50 miles of the year, and achieved the best distance in 12 hours.

DANGER MOUNTAIN

Continued from page 9

ally across the slope. He judged the distance, guessed at the extra speed the increased gradient would give Otto, made allowance for the man's superior ability—and pushed off.

Once he had left the mound Jack had no control over his course. He was going fast now, and all he could do was try not to fall. His body responded almost automatically to all Junge had taught him, and he went down with his skis together, knees well bent, and body thrust forward.

He did not dare to turn his head, in case he should accidentally swerve or miss sight of a bump. Suddenly out of the corner of his eye he saw Otto coming down, and he knew he had judged accurately. They would meet at the edge of the forest.

But Otto saw him too soon. The man let out a shout, and swerved to avoid a collision. With despair Jack saw that Otto was going to pass behind him unless he could reduce his speed, and with a desperate effort he forced out his heels. The snow billowed up on either side as he made a ragged snowplough, but his speed

slackened—and then Otto was passing behind him.

If Otto had realised that Jack was trying to collide he could have avoided the boy easily enough. He had swerved enough to miss him, but had not reckoned on the snowplough. Even so, he almost got past. Only the ends of Jack's skis were in the way, and if they had not been on edge Otto would have shot over them. The next moment he went down.

So did Jack, although as he had slowed almost to a stop he fell lightly. He did not try to get up, but caught one of Otto's skis and tugged. The man pulled and kicked, but Jack got both hands on an ankle and hung on grimly. Then Otto slashed viciously with a ski stick, and with a vigorous effort tore himself free, his ski catching Jack a blow on his cheek. As he reeled back he lost his grip on the man's ankle and though he clutched at it again desperately, Otto had moved out of range.

As Jack struggled to rise he saw Otto push up with his ski sticks and begin to glide along the few yards separating him from the Dark Forest.

To be continued

FREE ANIMALS



Hungarian animals of the forest for your THEMATIC collection. Delightful pictures in a beautiful setting. These large exquisite stamps should be in every collection and will increase its value. Send for this FREE set immediately and ask to see our cheap discount Approvals enclosing 3d. for postage.

LISBURN & TOWNSEND LTD. (CN), WEST KIRBY, WIRRAL.

APPROVAL SHEETS

THE fact that for the past 73 years we have scoured the markets for scarce and out-of-the-way items from the WORLD'S stamp-issuing countries, enables us to offer to collectors a better range and a larger selection of stamps in a FINER condition than can be found elsewhere. Our entire stock is at your disposal, and we shall be glad to send selections on APPROVAL to any part of the world. Our large cash purchases enable us to price the stamps on our SHEETS at very moderate prices. FOR 73 YEARS we have been sending out sheets of stamps on Approval. Every stamp we sell is fully guaranteed, is specially selected and priced at the lowest possible figure. Ask for a selection to be sent for your inspection.

ERRINGTON & MARTIN
(Dept. CN), South Hackney, London, E.9, England
Established 1880

WHAT'S THE POINTS PLAN?

Ask any stamp collector who knows Britain's Best FREE GIFT SCHEME or

Write NOW for our latest FREE packet of EIGHT brand-new Empire Queen Elizabeth issues (including New Zealand Coronation set) and LEARN ALL ABOUT IT!

Please send 3d. postage, and request our magnificent Approvals.

MODERN STAMPS

(Dept. E8), Kilry, ALYTH, Perthshire

STAMPS ON APPROVAL

We have three ranges of Approvals.

1. Br. Colon. (many MINT including LATEST ISSUES).
2. GREAT BRITAIN.
3. U.S.A.

Send for selections of the countries which interest YOU! PROMPT and INDIVIDUAL attention, and, remember—we send POST FREE!

BENNETT (C),
44 Darrel Road, RETFORD, Notts.

FREE Wild animals, birds, flowers. Beautiful stamps from Angola, Japan, etc. PLUS large 1953 Mint Crown Colony CORONATION. PLUS giant 1953 Monaco depicting exotic tropical fish "Portuguese man-of-war." Ask for Approvals and enclose 21d. stamp.

J.E. & M.A. POWELL (Dept. CN)
89, CRAIGDALE ROAD, HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.

1,000 STAMPS 7/6

ALL DIFFERENT. NO GT. BRITAIN 100. 3/6; 250. 1/9; 100. 10d. Br. Empire: 100. 1/6; 200. 3/6; 500. 7/3; 500. 15/6. Triangulars: 10. 1/6; 25. 4/6; 50. 10/-; 100. 30/- Rly. Engines: 15. 1/6; 25. 2/6; 50. 5/6. Maps: 10. 1/6; 25. 2/6. Ships: 10. 1/3; 25. 2/6.

All current British Colonial mint stamps in stock, including Coronation stamps and all new Elizabethan issues. Lists on request.


S. TATLOW & SONS, Eckington, Sheffield

STALIN
Large Portrait Stamp and 2 Giant Olympic Diamond stamps FREE with my Good Value Approvals.

Please send stamp to:

ROY COLLYER
109 Pershore Road, Birmingham, 5

GIBBONS' SIMPLIFIED WHOLE WORLD CATALOGUE 1840-1954 ONLY 19/8
Postage Included.



The 1,532 pages, and 11,500 illustrations of this massive volume combine to give boys and girls the finest entertainment and educational value of the year. Send today and ask for complete lists of stamps and accessories to:

H. H. G. VORLEY
35 New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1

The Children's Newspaper, October 24, 1953

The CN Astronomer writes this week about the . . .

SEA MONSTER OF THE SKY

THE southern sky is now occupied entirely by marine or "watery" constellations as they are sometimes called.

These began with Capricornus, the Sea Goat; then came Piscis Australis, the Southern Fish, with its first-magnitude star Fomalhaut appearing not far above the southern horizon between 9 and 10 o'clock at the present time.

Now occupying most of the south-east sky down to the horizon is Cetus the Whale, the largest of all the constellations.

Above these star groups, which extend down to the horizon, are



two great constellations of the Zodiac—Aquarius the Water-bearer, and the constellation of Pisces the Fishes.

There is little doubt that when these star-groups were formed into these imaginary constellations by the ancient astronomers of at least 8000 years ago, they were intended to symbolise the coming of the rainy season.

Although Cetus is today usually represented as a whale, the ancient Egyptians, and still less the Chaldeans, are not likely to have known about whales.

ROMAN PICTURE

In those far-off times Cetus was known as the Sea Monster, the earliest known picture dating from Roman times. This presented the creature as having an ugly head resembling a mythological dragon, two great claws, and a long neck—not in the least like a whale.

The chief stars of Cetus may be identified from the star-map above, which, though on a very small scale, shows the arrangement of the four third-magnitude stars, Eta, Theta, Zeta, and Tau, by which the other chief stars may be readily recognised.

CN PRIZEWINNERS

In CN Competition No. 36, the twenty 10s. 6d. book-tokens were awarded to: David Carr, Leyton; Ronald Cooke, West Norwood; James Dale, Kilmarnock; Felicity Davey, Redruth; David Dixon, Bournemouth; Beryl Farquhar, Greenford; Dorothy Fielding, Rossendale; Timothy Fisher, Woodbridge; Aileen Folland, Leeds; Gordon Hayes, Burnley; Gail Hodgkinson, Chepstow; Lynn Jackson, Ramsey; John Kirk, Taunton; Yvonne Knight, Northampton; Josephine Maddison, Derby; Brian Rich, Sutton-in-Ash; Ouaine Robertson, Huntly; Elizabeth Scott, Dunbar; Margaret Swain, Omagh; Carol Wall, Blackpool.

FRUIT-FLAVOURED

Modern methods of dehydration enable many fruits, reduced to a powder form in a high-vacuum chamber, to be quickly redissolved in water and give juices, indistinguishable in flavour and smell from fresh fruit juices.

Alpha represents the nose of the Monster, its ancient Arabic name, Menkar, meaning Nose. This is one of the "giant" suns and possesses a measured diameter of 97 million miles—more than 112 times greater than the diameter of the Sun. It radiates about 200 times more light and heat than our Sun.

Were it as near to us as our Sun, Alpha would appear larger than the whole constellation of Cetus; but fortunately it is about 9,400,000 times farther away than our Sun.

Gamma is composed of two suns which are travelling together towards the south-west, the smaller one probably revolving round the larger. Both are about 4,240,000 times farther than our Sun.

Of the quartet of stars referred to above, Tau is of particular interest as being the nearest star visible to the naked eye at the present time from Britain. It is 654,000 times farther than the Sun, its light taking 10 years and four months to reach us.

GREAT SUNS

Sirius is much nearer, but this rises later on.

From Theta light takes 32½ years to reach us. This is a much larger sun than Tau, and radiates nearly three times more light than our Sun.

Eta is a still larger sun whose light takes 99 years to reach us. Zeta is most interesting because it is composed of two suns which rapidly revolve round a central point between them in 16½ days.

Beta, also known as Deneb Kaitos, meaning Whale's Tail, appears the brightest star in Cetus. It is a sun radiating about 35 times more light than our Sun but from a distance 3,600,000 times farther away.

Mira, indicated by a X on the star-map, is the wonderful star which blazes up, but it is not at present visible.

G. F. M.

SECRET ROOMS

Secret rooms and numerous copper coins dating from the reign of George III have been discovered during the demolition of an ancient inn at Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire.

Two secret rooms have come to light. One of them, at the top of the building, measured 16 feet by 12 feet and was completely bricked up. The other, a small room that would hold about 12 men standing, had a door which was hidden by coverings of wallpaper.

Some time ago, when the landlord removed some loose bricks near the fireplace in one of the rooms still awaiting demolition, he discovered another bricked-up room. At the far end of this room he could make out a wooden structure about six feet long and three feet deep.

Great speculation has arisen as to what is in the room, but it will be months yet before it will be made to yield up its secrets.

ADVENTURES OF PUNCHO



SLIDING TACKLE

HEARING A SHOT FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF A RIDGE, PUNCHO RIDES OVER TO TAKE A LOOK. SEEMS THE STAGE FOR TOMBSTONE IS IN PLENTY TROUBLE.



WE'VE GOT THE GOLD - LET'S GO!

WHAT NOW? HOLD UP TWELVE RECKLESS BANDITS, WITH ONE RIFLE? IMPOSSIBLE! SHOOT THEM DOWN FROM COVER? NOT PUNCHO! HE HAS AN IDEA....

THINKS START A LITTLE LANDSLIDE - THAT'LL WORRY 'EM!

THE BOULDER HURTLING DOWN, TAKING A SHOWER OF SMALLER ROCKS WITH IT.

SCATTERING MADLY, THE STARTLED BANDITS DROP THEIR GUNS.

AND PUNCHO COMES TUMBLING AFTER. NOW REACH!

THE BANDIT LEADER MAKES A BREAK FOR IT!

BUT PUNCHO BRINGS HIM BACK...

THERE'S WORK TO DO! CLEAR AWAY THOSE ROCKS AND GET THIS STAGE ROLLING!

WHILE THE BANDITS WORK, PUNCHO TAKES A WELL-EARNED REST AND A PUNCH BAR!

I'm pleased as PUNCH FRY'S MILK PUNCH ONLY 4D - it's delicious! SAYS PUNCHO.

The Ernest Sewell CONJURING CABINETS

EVERY boy should possess an Ernest Sewell Super-Wizard Conjuror Cabinet, on sale at all good Toy Shops and Stores, price 3/4; 6/7; 8/6; 14/7; £1.6.3 & £3.6.6 each. Ask your Toy Dealer about them. Acknowledged the World's best Conjuror Tricks. Also Actor's Make-up, Angler's Set, Card Tricks, Duplicating Printing Set, Joke Cabinet and Bell Tents, Kites of all descriptions.

ABSOLUTELY FREE To all who send 21d. stamp for illustrated list and postage, we will send you absolutely free one of our wonderful Magic Card Tricks. You see Magic on Television. Why not do it yourself?

LONDON MAGICAL CO. (Dept. G), Francis Tce., Junction Rd., London, N.19.

200 STAMPS FREE

to all applicants for our discount Approvals. Write now.

Return postage appreciated

P. OWEN (CN 115)

"Bayona," Heysons Avenue, GREENBANK, NORTHWICH, CHESHIRE

British Colonial, Foreign Spacefillers, 15 a 1d., Pictorials, Commemoratives, Colonial, Foreign, 1d., 2d., 1d.

Postcard secures hundreds of Approvals.

PILGRIM

25 ALTON RD., WALLISDOWN, BOURNEMOUTH.

SEE

THE CORONATION FILM IN YOUR OWN HOME

This amazing 35 mm. Pocket Cinema with a long Strip Film of the entire

CORONATION PROCESSION SCENES & CEREMONY

Showing everything as if you were there, plus a film of the Crown Jewels. The whole outfit beautifully boxed in Gold and Purple.

NOW AVAILABLE

From all good stores and toyshops **7/6** It unable to obtain, send direct, adding 6d. P. & P.

FILM STRIPS

Eddlesborough, Nr. Dunstable, Beds.

CHEMISTRY

Wide range of apparatus and Laboratory Equipment.

Send 21d. stamp for Price List.

A. N. BECK & SONS

(Dept. C.N.),

60 Stoke Newington High Street,

London, N.16

CIGARETTE CARDS

Send 4d. for CATALOGUE of over 1,000 series. ALBUMS to hold 200 cards 1/9.

100 different cards 2/9 post free.

CHEESE LABELS

25 different 1/9; 50, 3/-; 75, 5/-;

100, 7/-; 200, 15/-.

16 page catalogue for 1/3 post free.

E.H.W. Ltd. (Dept. "C"),

42 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1

3 MALTA PICTORIALS and List Free to everyone ordering one of the following

50 diff.	100 diff.	200 diff.
Finland 1/6	Denmark 1/9	Austria 3/-
Jugoslavia 1/3	Fr. Colon. 3/-	Belgium 3/6
Norway 1/-	Italy 1/6	China 2/6
Portugal 1/6	Poland 3/-	Germany 2/6
S. Africa 2/6	Russia 3/6	Hungary 3/-
Turkey 2/-	Sweden 2/3	Pictorials 6/-
Br. Emp. 100, 1/6; 200, 3/3; 300, 7/-; 500, 14/-		
Postage 21d. extra. Cash with order, please.		
BATTSTAMPS (O) 5 Home Rd., London, S.W.11.		

CHEESE LABELS on Approval FREE POSTAGE

All applicants for my Discount Approvals will receive **THREE SWISS** Cheese Labels **FREE**. Just send a letter or postcard. Also STAMPS with FREE GIFT available on Approval.

'SELECTIONS,' 306 London Rd., Staines, Mdx.

5/- DEPOSIT & PAY OFF ANY ITEM

Send 4d. stamp for Coloured Catalogue.

REAL RADIO TYPEWRITER

LUXURY CRYSTAL SET Without phones **17/6**

Inc. phones **27/6**

FIXED DETECTOR - NO ADJUSTMENT NEEDED. Real Radio Reception - Not a Toy! Plays at once. Earphones essential. No Electricity. No Batteries. Works anywhere. Plastic case - unbreakable. 3" x 3" x 4". Plus 1/6 post and packing. C.O.D. 1/- extra.

Refrain if unsuitable or call.

MONTRÖSE PRODUCTS

Send 4d. stamp for Coloured Catalogue.

JOIN OUR XMAS CLUB

PRICES SLASHED

Walking Doll 21"

WITH PLAITS

32/6

Post 2/6 or C.O.D.

YOU CAN WASH COMB & TALK PERM MY HAIR SLEEP

Sleeping eyes, with eyelashes, movable limbs. Hard body. Beautifully dressed with shoes. Perm Kit 2/6 extra.

C.O.D. 1/- extra.

Refrain if unsuitable or call.

MONTRÖSE PRODUCTS

(Dept. CNP.26) 623/7 Holloway Rd., London, N.19.

A NEW BOX OF MAGIC!

A complete Box of Tricks suitable for all ages.

Price 5/- Post Free. Send for List.

BCM/TRICKS

67 BAYHAM STREET, LONDON, N.W.1

'TAKE YOUR CHOICE GIFT SCHEME'

ABSOLUTELY FREE, either

Our very colourful "Nature Set"—including

stamps showing butterflies, beetles, animals,

flowers, and other interesting wild life scenes,

OR

A complete set of giant GERMAN stamps

together with particulars of many other free

gifts. To all collectors requesting our

Approvals, stating choice of gift, and

enclosing 3d. postage to:

THE DAVMAR STAMP CO.,

88 Margaret Rd., East Barnet, Herts.

MATCH-BOX LABELS

and

CHEESE LABELS

on Approval, particulars, stamp.

CIGARETTE CARDS

List, 1,700 different sets, 6d. post free.

Mrs. M. B. SMITH,

56 Portland Street, London, S.E.17

BOYS

send your father out to buy the new wizard table football game called KIK-A-GOAL. This wonderful new game, with marked out playing field, goalposts, nets, realistic players, will thrill you, all your pals will be envious. It's only 25/-, your local Store, Toy or Sports dealer will have it, or post free from

CECIL COLEMAN, LTD.

Dept. F., 136 Pentonville Road, N.1

THE BRAN TUB

WHAT A TURN

"Now here's a clock that'll go for a week without winding," said the shopkeeper.

"And how long," asked his would-be customer, "will it go if I do wind it?"

FAMILIAR TREES

WALNUT trees, though usually seen growing in orchards and gardens, are quite often found by roadsides and in fields.



The tree grows from 40 to 60 feet high, the bole sometimes measuring 20 feet round. Young trees have a smooth, grey bark, but as they mature deep fissures form.

In Europe, walnut trees are grown mainly for their fruit, but the wood is, of course, used for furniture.

In reverse

In each of the following sentences there are two spaces which can be filled by two four-letter words which are the reverse of each other—for example, bats and stab.

I MUST — to put these — away.

Tom cannot find every — of this —.

If this rain — my new hat I shall be in a —.

Answer next week

BEDTIME CORNER

ROVER IS TOO FRIENDLY

BILLY considered that Rover was one of the friendliest dogs in the district.

Rover was always playing with other dogs, and having mock fights, but none of them ever got hurt. And he was on the best of terms with all the cats in the neighbourhood.

So when he came limping into the back garden one day Billy thought he must have had an accident.

"Hallo, old man," he said, anxiously lifting up the front paw. "What's happened to you?" Then he saw what the trouble was. Embedded in the paw were several spikes.

"I wonder where he got

those," thought Billy. But it was not long before he found the answer.

A little later he was at the bottom of the garden when he saw a hedgehog in search of food. As Billy went to pick him up he rolled himself into a tight little ball, presenting a fierce array of spines.

"So you're the culprit," said Billy, smiling. "Didn't you know that Rover only wanted to be friendly. Come on, Rover, come and look, he won't hurt you."

But "once bitten, twice shy" was Rover's motto. He had tried being friendly—and now he fled up the garden.

Warning notes

A BLUEBELL once bloomed in the meadow so green And her beauty and elegance brightened the scene When the bull came, and trampled her, then cried out "Well! I'm sorry, but why did you not ring your bell?"

"You are very unkind," said the bluebell. "You know That I'm never quite sure where you'll happen to go, For the matter of that," she exclaimed with some scorn, "When you're coming by why don't you blow your horn?"

Circus babies



Firm friends at Chipperfield's Circus are 15-month-old Margaret May Chipperfield and two-year-old Peter the Pelican.

FLOWER LEGEND

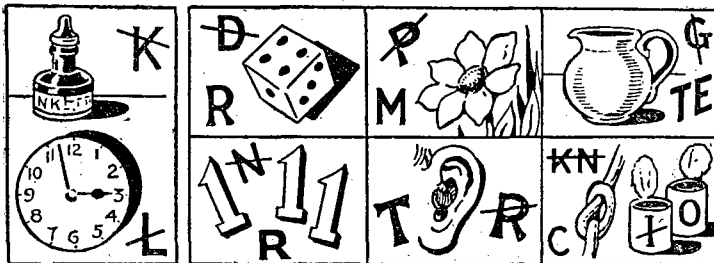
A NORTH AMERICAN legend says that the dandelion was once a beautiful, golden-haired girl who was admired by Shawondasee, the South Wind.

Shawondasee was such an indolent fellow, however, that although a great number of days passed, he would not stir himself to speak to her. Then one day she had changed greatly. Her lovely yellow hair had turned to a soft, silvery colour; she was old.

Shawondasee, sorry that he had not spoken to the girl, heaved a deep sigh, scattering her silken locks far and wide.

But every Spring she returns as the golden dandelion. And the lazy South Wind still sighs for the vanished maiden.

CAN YOU TELL FROM THESE CLUES WHAT COUNTRY... is named in the first picture and which of its products are represented?



India. Rice, metal, jute, ores, tea, cottons

Short of length

"No, I don't want that dog. Its legs are too short," said a man in the pet shop.

"Too short?" exploded the dealer, "they reach the ground all right."

3 D PUZZLE

Each of the blanks can be filled with a word which begins with the letter d. Can you complete each sentence?

THE wild — is a — mother.

When she leaves her nest, she covers the eggs with — plucked from her breast.

Possible answers: Duck, devoted, down

The show must go on
"THIS, ladies and gentlemen," said the guide, "is the room in which Sir Walter Scott wrote Ivanhoe."

"But," objected one tourist, "last year you said it was written in that room over there."

"Yes," came the answer, "but we can't get in there at present. It is being cleaned."

A VERY CLOSE SHAVE, SAID JACKO



Jacko and Baby had been sent to the town for a long-overdue haircut. While the barber's back was turned Jacko tied a napkin round Bouncer and put him in a chair. But as soon as the barber saw him Bouncer hastily made room for another customer.

Old nursery rhyme

THE man in the wilderness asked me
How many strawberries grow in the sea?
I answered him as I thought good—
As many as red herrings grow in the wood.

Everybody should know

DRIVING along a street, a motorist suddenly braked and narrowly avoided colliding with a milk cart which had turned into a side street without warning.

"Why didn't you signal you were going to turn?" he yelled at the milkman.

"Don't be daft, man," came the reply, "I always turn down this street."

Double meaning

The two missing words are similarly pronounced but have different meanings. Can you find what they are?

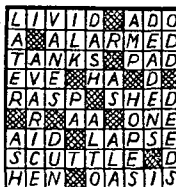
"THERE is a — of course," said Jill;
"It's just occurred to me. As we've no weight with which to —, We'll use this pound of tea."

Way, weigh

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Fill it in
Require, church, degrade, termite, escapes, testate

Square fruits
Plum, peach, lemon, orange, cherry, melon, banana, apricot, apple



Sharps

the word for Toffee

Edward Sharp & Sons Ltd "The Toffee Specialists" of Maidstone

Makers of Super-Kreem and Kreemy Toffees.

